

麻痹性贝毒生物合成机制的研究进展和蛋白组学的应用

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摘要 分别介绍麻痹性贝毒生物合成机制的重大研究进展和蛋白组学在该研究中的应用。目前对蓝藻的毒素生物合成机制已有了较为深入的了解;通过蛋白组学的应用,甲藻的毒素生物合成机制研究也有了初步进展。

关键词 麻痹性贝毒;生物合成机制;蛋白组学

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Review on Research Progress of Paralytic Shell Poison Biosynthesis and Application of Proteomics

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Abstract The research progress of paralytic shell poison biosynthesis and application of proteomics were introduced. There has been in-depth understanding of biosynthesis pathways in cyanobacteria now; through the application of proteomics, there is some preliminary progress in the same research in harmful dinoflagellates.

Key words Paralytic shell poison; Biosynthesis; Proteomics

淡水水体和海洋中,由于营养盐、温度、水文等条件的改变,导致一些藻类、原生动物或细菌突发性地增殖或聚集,短时间内达到相当高的密度并引起水体变色,这种生态现象被称为赤潮。其中部分赤潮的暴发危害到自然生态系统安全和人类健康,这类赤潮被称为有害赤潮(Harmful Algal Blooms, HABs)^[1]。一部分有害赤潮藻类可以生物合成毒素,通过食物链的生物放大作用(如贝类等滤食后毒素可在其体内积累),最终对顶端的鱼类、哺乳动物和人类构成危害,其中严重者还会引发死亡。

根据传播媒介和造成的中毒症状,赤潮毒素分为以下几类:麻痹性贝毒(Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, PSP)、腹泻性贝毒(Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning, DSP)、记忆缺失性贝毒(Amnestic Shellfish Poisoning, ASP)、神经性贝毒(Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning, NSP)和西加鱼毒(Ciguatera Fish Poisoning, CFP)。其中麻痹性贝毒是分布最广、危害最大的一类赤潮毒素,使人中毒的范围在600~5 000 MU(MU是毒力单位,1 MU定义为18~22 g小白鼠在15 min内死亡的毒力),致死量是3 000~30 000 MU。人类在误食染毒贝类30 min后,唇、舌头和脸有刺痛和灼烧的感觉,渐渐地扩展到脖子、手臂、手指、腿和脚趾,接着感到麻木,导致移动都很困难,如果引起呼吸系统的麻痹,12 h内可能会导致死亡。麻痹性贝毒已经被列为贝类产品的常规检测指标之一。石房蛤毒素作为主要的麻痹性贝毒种类之一,已被收入联合国《化学武器公约》中禁止化学品的第二类清单。麻痹性贝毒生物合成机制的研究则已成为诸多赤潮研究方向中的一个热点,在产毒的环境调控机理、生物合成途径和基因遗传学研究等方面均已开展了许多工作。笔者将分别介绍麻痹性贝毒生物合成机制的重大研究进展和蛋白组学在该研究中的应用。

1 麻痹性贝毒的生物合成途径

1.1 生物化学合成途径 麻痹性贝毒是一类嘌呤衍生物,目前已发现20多种,包括甲藻、蓝藻、红藻和细菌在内的部分生物可以合成该类毒素^[2]。研究已证明,嘌呤并非麻痹性贝毒生物合成的前体。Shimizu等通过在培养产毒蓝藻时,

喂养稳定同位素¹³C和¹⁵N标记的小分子有机物,培养后提纯毒素进行核磁共振分析,发现是由乙酸(acetate)、精氨酸(arginine)、腺苷甲硫氨酸(S-adenosylmethionine)以及其他未知的化合物通过一条未知的途径先合成石房蛤毒素,后或再经过其他修饰酶的作用转化为其他种类的麻痹性贝毒^[3-4]。Shimizu等还提出了一个可能的关键步骤:一个乙酸单元或衍生物与精氨酸或其前体在 α 碳上的CLAISEN聚合^[5]。这个步骤完善了Chevolot提出的精氨酸前体理论^[6],使精氨酸或其前体的结构可以完整地合并入毒素分子中,同时符合试验的观测结果。Shimizu等研究发现了毒素分子环状结构中所有碳分子的来源。Kellmann等对产毒蓝藻*Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* T3提取蛋白进行体外试管试验,发现石房蛤毒素的生物合成前体是乙酸、精氨酸、腺苷甲硫氨酸、氨基甲酰磷酸(carbamoyl phosphate),参与合成的酶都来自于细胞质组分,同时试验中所需的一种未知的辅酶,可以使用极性溶液从膜组分中提取到^[7]。

1.2 遗传进化 Kellmann等在*C. raciborskii* T3中发现了一组命名为*sxt*的基因簇,其中包含26个基因(蛋白),执行30种催化功能^[8]。其中基因*sxtA*控制着4种蛋白(*sxtA1*~*sxtA4*)的表达,催化石房蛤毒素生物合成关键的起始步骤的进行。*sxtA1*类似于腺苷甲硫氨酸甲基转运酶;*sxtA2*类似于一种N-乙酰基转移酶(GNAT),负责从乙酰辅酶A中获取乙酸;*sxtA3*类似于一种酰基载体蛋白(acyl carrier protein, ACP);*sxtA4*与一种氨基转移酶(class II aminotransferases)和另一种蛋白AONS(8-amino-7-oxononanoate synthase)的功能类似,其功能包括执行胺基的CLAISEN聚合。*sxtI*类似于一种氨基甲酰基转运酶(Carbamoyltransferase),功能是将氨基甲酰磷酸合成入毒素分子中。石房蛤毒素生物合成的假想过程见图1。

在此基础上,Moustafa等利用*sxt*基因簇(含26个推定的基因)作为模板或“饵”,通过全基因组测序、16S rRNA分析、RAST快速标注、发生树分析等技术,研究在产毒蓝藻(STX+)、不产毒蓝藻(STX-)和其他非蓝藻产毒生物如细菌、甲藻之间的同源和进化关系^[9]。结果发现,26个目标基因中有17个的起源是来自蓝藻自身,这17个中有4个(Group I)属于STX+和STX-所共有,另外13个只存在于

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认为是甲藻产毒的重要环境调控因素之一。

3 结语

麻痹性贝毒是一种分布最广、危害最大的赤潮毒素,它对水产养殖、水域生态和人类健康造成了重大危害。麻痹性贝毒的生物合成机制一直是赤潮研究的一个重要领域,通过众多学者的努力,对其中一类产毒生物蓝藻的生物合成机制有了较为深入的了解,取得了丰硕的成果。但对于另一类重要产毒生物甲藻来说,研究刚刚处于起步阶段,蛋白组学的应用则为甲藻的研究提供了非常有利的工具,这将成为未来赤潮研究最为热门的领域之一。

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